

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

Copy 1 of 1

4 SEP 1963

25X1

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Science and Technology)
SUBJECT : U-2 Camera Improvement Development Status

1. An Itek "C" triple prime camera (24", f3.5 CORONA camera), modified for flight test in a U-2 aircraft, has completed laboratory tests successfully at Boston. This camera is being shipped to Burbank on 4 September for a series of evaluation flights in a U-2 aircraft. This Itek camera will be capable of achieving ground resolutions of 1 1/2 feet at U-2 altitudes.

2. U-2 flight tests have been completed on the first of three improved Hycon "B" cameras capable of achieving ground resolutions of about two feet as compared with 2 1/2 - 3 feet resolutions normally obtained with Hycon "B" cameras used in both CIA and SAC U-2 programs. The second improved Hycon "B" camera is scheduled for delivery on 4 September to the CIA Detachment at Edwards Air Force Base. This second improved camera has been adjusted for color film use. U-2 flight tests of this camera, utilizing color film, will commence about 6 September. A third improved Hycon "B" camera is scheduled for delivery about 19 September.

3. A camera being developed by Hycon for the OXCART program, designated the Hycon #333, an f5.6 and 48" framing camera with an expected ground resolution of three-quarters of a foot, is scheduled for delivery in late October. This camera has been designed to be flown in either the U-2 or A-12 aircraft.

4. The present Perkin-Elmer and Eastman Kodak cameras designed for the OXCART A-12 will not fit in the U-2 "Q" bay. During an early phase of flight test of the Eastman Kodak prototype OXCART camera, flights were made in a U-2 aircraft

Page 2

because the camera was configured without a stabilization system for this phase of the test program. The presently configured Eastman Kodak OXCART camera, which includes a stabilization platform, cannot be accommodated in a U-2 aircraft.

15/
JACK C. LEDFORD
COLONEL, USAF
Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

*Reported contents of above to DCI at morning meeting -
4 Sep. 15/*

John Parangosky:D/TECH/OSA (3 September 1963)

Distribution:

- 1&2 - DD/S&T
- 3 - AD/OSA
- 4 - D/TECH/OSA
- 5 - EXO/OSA
- 6 - D/TECH/OSA (Chrono)
- 7 - RB/OSA